

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 AF-10 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10

DHA-02 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 AID-05 EB-07

SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 HEW-04 OIC-02 SP-02 SS-15

NSC-05 /111 W

-----022307Z 099963 /70

O 022210Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1299

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BOGOTA 4012

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UN, ECOSOC, SHUM, CO

SUBJECT: 62ND EXOSOC: U.S. CANDIDACY FOR RE-ELECTION TO THE  
COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

REF: STATE 097887

1. IN VIEW OF THE BRIEF TIME REMAINING BEFORE VOTE, ON MORNING OF  
MAY 2 POL COUNSELOR TELEPHONES FONOFF UNDERSECRETARY FOR  
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND CONFERENCES JOAQUIN FONSECA AND  
CONVEYED TO HIM SUBSTANCE OF REFTEL.

2. FONSECA, WITH OBVIOUS REGRET, EXPLAINED THAT THE GOC HAD  
HAD NO PREVIOUS INKLING OF U.S. INTEREST IN REELECTION TO THE  
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION. IF SUCH AN INDICATION HAD BEEN  
RECEIVED, HE SAID, THE GOC, FULLY AWARE OF THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION'S  
INTEREST AND ROLE IN ADVANCING HUMAN RIGHTS CAUSES, WOULD HAVE  
SUPPORTED THE U.S. CANDIDACY UNHESITATINGLY. UNFORTUNATELY,  
FONSECA WENT ON, THE FRENCH, FRG AND AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADORS  
HAD ALREADY MADE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIONS TO FOREIGN MINISTER  
LIEVANO TO REQUEST COLOMBIA'S SUPPORT FOR THEIR COUNTRIES'S  
CANDIDACIES TO THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION. THE FONOFF HAD  
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CONFIRMED BY DIPLOMATIC NOTE COLOMBIA'S INTENTION TO SUPPORT  
THESE CANDIDACIES AND HAD ALREADY ISSUED THE NECESSARY INSTRUCTIONS  
TO ITS UN DELEGATION. HAVING GIVEN THESE FORMAL COMMITMENTS,  
FONSECA SAID, THE FONOFF SAW NO WAY IT COULD ALTER ITS  
POSITION.

3. POL COUNSELOR TOLD FONSECA THAT THE EMBASSY WOULD IN ANY

CASE DELIVER A DIPLOMATIC NOTE (NOTE WAS DELIVERED AFTERNOON OF MAY 2)

IN THE EVENT THAT CIRCUMSTANCES, SUCH AS A TIE IN VOTING, ALLOWED THE GOC TO VOTE FOR THE U.S. CANDIDACY AND AGAIN, USING TALKING POINTS, URGED THAT COLOMBIA RECONSIDER ITS POSITION. FONSECA PROMISED HE WOULD CONSULT ON MATTER AND CALL BACK.

4. IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION, FONSECA SAID HE HAD DISCUSSED SUBJECT WITH FOREIGN MINISTER LIEVANO, WHO REITERATED COLOMBIA'S READINESS TO VOTE FOR THE U.S. IF OTHER COMMITMENTS HAD NOT ALREADY BEEN MADE. ACCORDING TO FONSECA, LIEVANO SAID THAT IF THE U.S. COULD PREVAIL ON ONE OF THE OTHER THREE COUNTRIES TO RETIRE ITS CANDIDACY, COLOMBIA WOULD BE HAPPY TO SUPPORT THE U.S. CANDIDACY.  
DREXLER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
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**Errors:** N/A  
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**TAGS:** SHUM, PORG, CO, US, UN, ECOSOC  
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**Review Markings:**  
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